

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application. Please amend Claims 1 and 9 as indicated in the following Listing of Claims. Please cancel Claim 25 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A floor covering comprising:
 - a) at least one elastomer as a polymeric binder based on at least one polyolefin with a density $< 0.910 \text{ g/cm}^3$, wherein the elastomer is at least partially cross-linked with at least one cross-linking agent based on an organic peroxide and optionally a co-cross-linking agent; and
 - b) at least one grafted copolymer, wherein the grafted copolymer is maleic acid anhydride grafted HD polyethylene.
2. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polyolefin has a density of $0.85 - 0.892 \text{ g/cm}^3$.
3. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polyolefin is selected from among the class of very low density (VLD) PE polymers.

4. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polyolefin is a mixture of at least two ethylene copolymers, wherein the ethylene copolymer mixture comprises a copolymer (a) as the main polymer with a density of $0.89 - 0.91 \text{ g/cm}^3$ and a copolymer (b) to control rheology and elasticity with a density of $0.86-0.88 \text{ g/cm}^3$ and a melt flow index (MFI) > 3 .
5. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the copolymers (a) and (b) are present at a weight ratio of 4:1 to 3:2.
6. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the copolymers (a) and (b) are copolymers of ethylene and octene.
- 7-8. (Previously cancelled)
9. (Currently amended) The floor covering as claimed in ~~Claim 8~~ Claim 1, wherein the grafting degree is 1% to 5%.
10. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the proportion of grafted copolymer in relation to the total weight of the polymeric binder is 5% to 25% by weight.
11. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the elastomer is cross-linked with at least one cross-linking agent based on an organic peroxide and optionally a co-cross-linking agent.
12. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the co-cross-linking agent is an isocyanuric acid derivative or an acrylate or a methacrylate derivative derived from a polyol.

13. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 1, which further comprises a filler, a pigment, a processing aid, an antioxidant, a static eliminator, a UV stabilizer or a slip agent.
14. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the filler is a mixture of platelet-shaped and crystalline mineral intergrowths.
15. (Previously presented) The floor covering as claimed in Claim 1, having a variable color pattern and a homogeneous design.
- 16-24. (Previously withdrawn)
25. (Cancelled)